

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**1996 No. 1104**

**RIVER, ENGLAND AND WALES**  
**SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES**

**The Prohibition of Keeping of Live Fish (Crayfish) Order 1996**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>15th April 1996</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>17th April 1996</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>	- -	<i>29th May 1996</i>

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in relation to England, and the Secretary of State for Wales, in relation to Wales, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 1(1) of the Import of Live Fish (England and Wales) Act 1980(1) and all other enabling powers in that behalf; and, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Act, after consultation with the Nature Conservancy Council for England and the Countryside Council for Wales and such other persons as the Minister and the Secretary of State consider appropriate; and being of the opinion that the species of live fish to which this Order applies might compete with, displace, prey on or harm the habitat of any freshwater fish, shellfish or salmon in England and Wales, hereby make the following Order:

**Citation, commencement, extent and interpretation**

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Prohibition of Keeping of Live Fish (Crayfish) Order 1996, shall come into force on 29 May 1996 and shall extend to England and Wales.

(2) In this Order “crayfish” means a freshwater decapod crustacean of the Families Astacidae, Cambaridae or Parastacidae, other than the species *Austropotamobius pallipes* (commonly known as the Atlantic stream, or white clawed, crayfish).

**Prohibition of keeping of crayfish**

2.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) below, no person shall keep any live crayfish, except under the authority of a licence granted by the Minister.

(2) The prohibition specified in paragraph (1) above shall not apply to crayfish of the species *Pacifastacus leniusculus* (commonly known as the signal crayfish) kept within those parts of England and Wales which are within the postcode areas set out in column 1 (and described in column 2), as read with column 3, of the Schedule to this Order.

---

(1) 1980 c. 27; section 1(2) was amended by the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (c. 4), section 132(1)(a) and Schedule 9, paragraph 8; section 1(3) was amended by the Fisheries Act 1981 (c. 24), section 37(2); see section 4 for definitions of “the Minister”, “fish” and “shellfish”.

---

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

---

10th April 1996

*Tony Baldry*  
Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food

15th April 1996

*Rod Richards*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Welsh  
Office

## SCHEDULE

Article 2

PARTS OF ENGLAND AND WALES IN WHICH NO LICENCE IS REQUIRED  
TO KEEP CRAYFISH OF THE SPECIES PACIFASTACUS LENIUSCULUS

Column 1 Postcode Areas	Column 2 Town on which postcode area is centred	Column 3 Postal districts in postcode area within which no licence is required
AL	St Albans	All
B	Birmingham	B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6, B7, B10, B12, B13, B14, B15, B16, B17, B18, B19, B20, B21, B25, B27, B28, B29, B30, B31, B32, B38, B45, B47, B48, B49, B50, B60, B61, B62, B63, B64, B65, B66, B67, B68, B69, B70, B71, B80, B94, B95, B96, B97, B98
BA	Bath	All
BH	Bournemouth	BH1, BH2, BH3, BH4, BH5, BH6, BH7, BH8, BH9, BH10, BH11, BH12, BH13, BH14, BH15, BH16, BH17, BH18, BH19, BH20, BH21, BH22, BH31
BN	Brighton	All
BR	Bromley	All
BS	Bristol	All
CB	Cambridge	All
CM	Chelmsford	All
CO	Colchester	All
CR	Croydon	All
CT	Canterbury	CT5, CT19, CT20, CT21
CV	Coventry CV1, CV2, CV3, CV4, CV5, CV6, CV8, CV21, CV22, CV23, CV31, CV32, CV33, CV34, CV35, CV36, CV37	
DA	Dartford	All
DT	Dorchester	All
DY	Dudley	All
E	London E	All

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

Column 1 Postcode Areas	Column 2 Town on which postcode area is centred	Column 3 Postal districts in postcode area within which no licence is required
EC	London EC	All
EN	Enfield	All
EX	Exeter	EX19, EX20, EX21, EX22, EX23, EX31, EX32, EX33, EX34, EX35, EX35, EX36, EX37, EX38, EX39
GL	Gloucester	GL1, GL2, GL3, GL4, GL5, GL6, GL7, GL8, GL9, GL10, GL11, GL12, GL13, GL14, GL18, GL19, GL20, GL51, GL52, GL53, GL54, GL55, GL56
GU	Guildford	All
HA	Harrow	All
HP	Hemel Hempstead	All
IG	Ilford	All
IP	Ipswich	IP1, IP2, IP3, IP4, IP5, IP6, IP7, IP8, IP9, IP10, IP11, IP24, IP26, IP27, IP28, IP29, IP30, IP31
KT	Kingston	All
LD	Llandrindod Wells	LD7, LD8
LE	Leicester	LE160
LU	Luton	All
ME	Maidstone	All
MK	Milton Keynes	All
N	London N	All
NG	Nottingham	NG33
NN	Northampton	All
NR	Norwich	NR1, NR2, NR3, NR4, NR5, NR6, NR7, NR8, NR9, NR10, NR11, NR12, NR13, NR14, NR15, NR16, NR18, NR19, NR20, NR21, NR22, NR23, NR24, NR25, NR26, NR27, NR28, NR29, NR30, NR31, NR32, NR33, NR34, NR35
NW	London NW	All

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

Column 1 Postcode Areas	Column 2 Town on which postcode area is centred	Column 3 Postal districts in postcode area within which no licence is required
OX	Oxford	All
PE	Peterborough	PE1, PE2, PE3, PE4, PE5, PE6, PE7, PE8, PE9, PE10, PE11, PE12, PE14, PE15, PE16, PE17, PE18, PE19, PE20, PE30, PE31, PE32, PE33, PE34, PE37, PE38
PL	Plymouth	All
PO	Portsmouth and Isle of Wight	All
RG	Reading	All
RH	Redhill	All
RM	Romford	All
SE	London SE	All
SG	Stevenage	All
SL	Slough	All
SM	Sutton	All
SN	Swindon	All
SO	Southampton	SO14, SO15, SO16, SO17, SO18, SO19, SO20, SO21, SO22, SO23, SO24, SO31, SO32, SO50, SO51, SO52, SO53
SP	Salisbury	All
SS	Southend	All
SW	London SW	All
SY	Shrewsbury	SY1, SY2, SY3, SY4, SY5, SY6, SY7, SY8, SY9, SY10, SY11, SY15, SY16, SY17, SY21, SY22
TA	Taunton	TA1, TA2, TA5, TA6, TA7, TA8, TA9, TA10, TA11, TA12, TA13, TA14, TA15, TA16, TA17, TA18, TA19
TF	Telford	All
TN	Tunbridge Wells	TN1, TN2, TN3, TN4, TN5, TN6, TN7, TN8, TN9, TN10, TN12, TN13, TN14, TN15, TN16, TN17, TN18, TN19, TN20, TN21, TN22, TN28,

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

Column 1 Postcode Areas	Column 2 Town on which postcode area is centred	Column 3 Postal districts in postcode area within which no licence is required
		TN29, TN30, TN31, TN32, TN33, TN34, TN35, TN36, TN37, TN38, TN39, TN40
TQ	Torquay	All
TR	Truro	All
TW	Twickenham	All
UB	Uxbridge	All
W	London W	All
WC	London WC	All
WS	Walsall	WS1, WS2, WS3, WS4, WS5, WS6, WS8, WS9, WS10
WV	Wolverhampton	WV1, WV2, WV3, WV4, WV5, WV6, WV7, WV12, WV13, WV14, WV15, WV16
WD	Watford	All
WR	Worcester	All

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order, which is made under section 1 of the Import of Live Fish (England and Wales) Act 1980 (“the Act”), and which comes into force on 29 May 1996, prohibits, subject to an exception, the keeping in England and Wales of any species of crayfish other than the native species, *opotamobius pallipes* except under authority of a licence granted by the Minister. There is an exception to the prohibition in respect of crayfish of the species *stacus leniusculus* (signal crayfish) which are kept within those parts of England and Wales which are described by reference to postal districts in the Schedule to the Order.

Section 3 of the Act provides that any person who keeps nonnative crayfish without a valid licence or who contravenes the terms of a licence shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

A compliance cost assessment has been prepared in relation to this Order and deposited in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament. Copies may be obtained from:

Salmon Whaling and Inland Fisheries Division Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Room 606, Nobel House 17 Smith Square London SW1P 3JR.

*Document Generated: 2023-12-28*

**Status:** *This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*